GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4894
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
ORGANISED AND UNORGANISED WORKERS
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 14th World Trade Union Congress was organised by the World Federation of Trade Union at Vigyan Bhawan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the suggestion made by the participants to protect the interest of organised and unorganised workers in the country;

(d) the reaction of the Union Government on the suggestions made; and

(e) the steps taken by Union Government during the last three years to protect the interest of organised and unorganised workers in the various sectors?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) & (b): The 14th World Congress of the Trade Unions was held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi from 23rd to 28th March, 2000. It is reported that 421 participants from various countries attended the Congress.

(c),(d) & (e): The Congress inter-alia adopted Priorities For Action which envisaged inter-alia organising the unorganised through new membership enrolment in trade unions, organising workers and trade unions in enterprises where there is no trade union and organising the informal sector, part time workers, home workers and the self - employed persons. In addition the Congress also pleaded for a universal system of social security. The suggestions made by the Congress will be kept in view while formulating and implementing policies and programmes for the labour. The measures taken by the Government to protect the interest of the workers in the organised and unorganised sector include (1) Implementation of the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service)Act and the Building and Other Construction Workers (Welfare and Cess) Act by framing rules under both the Acts. (2) increasing rate of employers and employees` contribution from 10% to 12% resulting in enhancing provident Fund benefits to over 20 million members. (3) Raising the national floor level minimum wage from Rs.35/- per day to Rs.40 per day.

Besides, the Government has also set up the Second National Commission on Labour which is alsoexpected to suggest rationalisation of existing laws relating to labour in the unorganised sector and to suggest an umbrella legislation for ensuring a minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganised sector.